tirely ruled out. Curtailment/diversion of any other trip to a particular trip is not considered desirable as such a step would in turn affect other commuters.

Introducing short distance passenger trains

1436. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce more short distance passenger trains and increase the frequency of existing trains to relieve the pressure of passengers on long distance trains; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Railways policy is not to introduce sectional trains for short distance traffic which is more economically served by road transport. However, proposals for medium distance inter-city trains are considered on the basis of traffic justification and availability of the requisite facilities.

Cancellation of trains

1437. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railways had cancelled some trains from 15-1-88;

(z) if so, what are the details thereof; indicating the reasons for cancellation;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to ease the traffic on these routes; and

(d) when these trains are likely to be re-introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to seasonal drop in passenger traffic during the Winter Months, transportation of essential commodities POL and drought relief materials, and other operational reasons, the following trains have been temporarily cancelled from 15-1 1988:—

(1) 17/18 Madras-Jammu Tawi Janta Express.

(2) 937/938 Ahmedabad-Cochin Weekly Express.

(3) 65/66 Tiruchirapalli-Cochin Express.

(4) 307/308 Ernakulam-Cannanore Express.

(5) 49/50 Howrah-Amritsar Express (partially between Mughalsarai-Amritsar).

(c) Alternative services are available on the routes covered by these trains.

(d) These trains will be restored/reorganised in the forth-coming Summer Time Table.

Unmanned Railway level crossing

1438. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to man all the unmanned Railway level crossings in the country to reduce the Railway accident;

(b) if so, what is the number of such crossings, manned during 1987-88 zone-wise; and

(c) what is the number of such crossings to be manned during 1988-89, zone-wise?